## MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND SANITARY ENGINEERING

Room 1-142

CAMBRIDGE 39, MASS.

December 16, 1953

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Associate Professor of Genetics
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I waited until I received the reprints of my recent article, "Staining Bacterial Polysaccharides", before answering your card. As far as I know Alcian Blue is not available in this country. I obtained a sample from Imperial Chemicals in England. At the time I obtained the dye, they made no mention as to the possible availability of the dye in this country. If the dye is proven satisfactory, I feel sure that it will become available. The easiest way to obtain working samples of the dye would be to write directly to Imperial Chemicals.

I hope that you are able to obtain a sample of Alcian Blue for your work and find it satisfactory. I would be most interested in your results.

Sincerely yours,

Ross E. McKinney

Associate Professor of

Sanitary Engineering

Ross E. Mr. Come

REMcK/dad Enclosure